

LACDMH EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

By Kimberli Washington, Public Information Office



Photo by Marcel Jones

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) HONORS Committee hosted the 2015 Employee of the Year awards ceremony at the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall in Los Angeles on Thursday, October 15, 2015. Out of the six award categories, there were five individual and three team winners.

The LACDMH Employee of the Year program is designed to recognize exceptional colleagues (individually or as a team) chosen by peers, who embody the department's vision and mission. The HONORS Committee is made up of a diverse group of LACDMH staff who review and score all nominations based on specific written narration of why nominees deserve the award. Nominees are scored on the criteria of dedication, quality and excellence, collaboration, impact and cultural competency.



Photo by Marcel Jones

This year's awards ceremony was a special event because it is the last time LACDMH Director Marvin Southard, D.S.W., will host before his retirement on November 6, 2015. "It is bittersweet for me because it is the last time I will be preceding over these awards," said Dr. Southard as he explained the significance of honoring each exemplary employee who has displayed heroic work for the department.

Here are the LACDMH Employees of the Year for 2015:

LEADERSHIP

Karen Streich
Juvenile Halls & Probation



Photo by MC Harris

DEDICATED DIRECT SERVICES INDIVIDUAL

Mary VanAmburg
Central Juvenile Hall – MH Unit



Mitch Artman
Downtown MHC Wellness



Photos by Erik Walton

DEDICATED DIRECT SERVICES TEAM

Roybal Family MHC Young Mothers & Babies FSP



Photo by Erik Walton

DEDICATED SUPPORT SERVICES INDIVIDUAL

Antoinette (Toni) Gilbert
Office of Consumer & Family Affairs



Photo by Erik Walton

DEDICATED SUPPORT SERVICES TEAM

The Space Planning Team



Photo by Erik Walton

Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall Clerical Team



Photo by Erik Walton

Career Achievement

Dolores Daniel - CalWORKs, GROW & DPSS Co-Located Programs



Congratulations to all the 2015 nominees and award recipients.

The HONORS Committee consists of Leticia Ximénez (Committee Chair), Angel Rendon, Carlos Uribe, Gia Crecelius, Irma Vallejos, Jeffrey Baer, Kendra Lyman, Manuel Rosas, Sarah Gelberd and Yanela Soulier-Rios. Special acknowledgement was given for the slide show presentation-Destiny Walker; photography-Ella Granston, Erik Walton, Marcel Jones and MC Harris; music-Archie Wilson, Felix Aguilar and Steven Boston; Thelisa Nunley, Kumar Menon and the Community Government Relations Committee.